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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1315 W. 4th Avenue • Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018 • (509) 735-7581

May 30, 2003

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Mr. Bryan L. Foley  
Richland Operations Office  
United States Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: A6-38  
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Foley:

Re: Comments on the 216-B-3 Main Pond Closure Plan

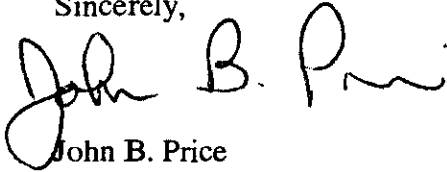
The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has completed a separate review of the 216-B-3 Main Pond closure document in accordance with Section 5.5 of the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Action Plan. In reviewing this document, Ecology found it fails to meet the requirements to protect human health and the environment pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-303-610(2). The bases for this finding are:

- The closure documentation is incomplete. All information required for the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) closure plan must be extracted from the applicable portions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) documents and included in the closure plan document. "Each RFI/CMS closure document will be structured such that . . . [it] can be incorporated in the [Hanford Sitewide] RCRA Permit" (TPA Action Plan Section 5.5). The United States Department of Energy proposed to use a conditional point of compliance for ecological protection (Section 5.2 of the Feasibility Study for the 200-CW-1 and CW-3 OU and the 200 North Area Waste Sites) that presumes institutional controls pursuant to WAC 173-340-7490(4). Clean Closure is not achieved and a post-closure plan will be required.
- Land-use designation is improper. The 200-CW-1 & W-3 OU Remedial Investigation Report, Section 4.2.2.2, states 216-B Pond TSD units will be evaluated in accordance with a residential exposure scenario.
- Ecological evaluations are incorrectly calculated using a feeding guild not submitted for prior Ecology consultation and approval (WAC 173-340-7490).
- The statistical treatment of groundwater monitoring data is not approved by Ecology. The Shuhart-CUSUM technique is still undergoing a trial at the 216-B-3 Pond and the analysis of its applicability and appropriateness has as yet to be performed and presented to Ecology.
- Data validation techniques are not included (WAC-173-303-300).

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Again, the United States Department of Energy and contractor staff are encouraged to discuss proposed permit submittals with Ecology to clarify any questions or concerns. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact me at (509) 736-3029 or Jean Vanni at (509) 736-3046.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John B. Price". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent and the last name "Price" following in a similar style.

John B. Price  
Environmental Restoration Project Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program

JP:JV:lkd

cc: Dennis Faulk, EPA  
Ellen Mattlin, USDOE  
Matthew McCormick, USDOE  
Todd Martin, HAB  
Rick Gay, CTUIR  
Pat Sobotta, NPT  
Russell Jim, YN  
Ken Niles, OOE  
Administrative Record: 216-B-3